

War's Panorama

Another Week of Military Suspense
Combined With a Striking Diversity of
Events at Home and Abroad

CONTINUED mystery shrouded the intentions of the German General Staff as to the precise time and place of the anticipated renewal of offensive warfare on a large scale.

America in Action

MEANWHILE, we had a mystery of our own on this side of the water. From Ottawa was issued a cable summary of operations purporting to have come from the War Committee of the British Cabinet, which pointed out that the Entente was so confident of being able to cope with the coming German blow that "having been given the choice of a small immediate American army for defence, or waiting till they are reinforced by a complete, powerful, self-supporting American army, they have chosen the latter." The summary added that "to the sledgehammer use of masses of men by the enemy the Allies are opposing the strategy of meeting the blow with the smallest force capable of standing up to the shock, while keeping the strongest reserve possible."

The statement was received here with amazement. America had understood that her men were already in the thick of things and that they were to fight in increasing numbers, shoulder to shoulder with the French and British allies. And America wanted this to be so. Therefore the amazement.

But the next day Secretary Baker denied it emphatically. The American troops, he said, were now being used in battle and would continue to be used as General Foch deemed best. The report was also repudiated by Lord Reading, British Ambassador to America, who stated that it was diametrically opposed to all the information received by him from the British War Cabinet. He admitted that he was quite in the dark regarding its origin, but said he was convinced the statement had not been issued with the knowledge of the Prime Minister or the British War Cabinet.

There was a strong feeling here that English politics were in some way behind the mystery. Next Lord Reading received information from London to the effect that the communication had never even been seen by the British War Cabinet. And this further repudiation was backed up by the Ambassador with a plea against the false optimism which, in many quarters, the original statement had set afoot.



Next Ottawa was heard from. The statement, it was now explained, was "due to an error in compilation," according to a statement received from the British government by the Canadian government and made public as "official news." Owing to this error, the explanation continued, "it was not made clear that this related to the period when America first joined the war and had no relation to the events whereby the American army is being brigaded with the Entente armies."

So the mystery deepened? Finally Premier Robert Borden told the House of Commons at Ottawa that the dispatch containing the announcement was signed by the British Secretary of State for the Colonies, the subsequent correction coming also from the same source. He explained that the much-mooted dispatch was one of the weekly war summaries received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies by the Governor General of Canada. If any mistake was made, he insisted, it was not made in Ottawa.

Pershing in Command

THE only certainty growing out of all this seems to be that America is to remain actively in the fight. Toward the end of the week it was reported that General Pershing would

probably be given command of brigaded bodies of troops at the front in which American soldiers predominate.

The Yanks Capture London

AMERICA meanwhile thrilled to the news that a regiment of the National Army had marched through the streets of London, being wildly acclaimed by tremendous crowds, which, in their enthusiasm, belied completely the traditional British trait of stolidity and lack of demonstration. Thousands all along the line of march waved the Stars and Stripes in one hand and the Union Jack in the other. London has seen few parades during the war, and no American troops since last summer, when the engineers passed through the city. The new regiment apparently created a profound impression.

The parade was hailed as an event of historic significance. America, which had once received a little band of pilgrims from those shores, was sending back her battalions to the mother country on a pilgrimage more sacred than the Crusades. Men in the regiment declared it was the happiest and most memorable moment of their lives when they halted in review before Buckingham Palace. They seemed, one and all, conscious of a lofty mission. These men were chosen less than a year ago by the selective draft, and their officers, save only the colonel and lieutenant colonel, were graduated at the training camps last summer.

Civil vs. Military

THE short, sharp combat over the Maurice charges, which ended in a victory for Lloyd George, has set afoot new opposing forces in England—or rather caused a renewal of an old controversy. As the smoke rises and the skies partially clear it is disclosed that the issue between those who believe in political control of the war and those who want a military dictatorship has not disappeared. It is simply a case of the civil vs. the military, with all parties, however, intent upon winning the war, differing only as to the technique by means of which this aim is to be realized. One party desires a prosecution of the war by force only and the other by a combination of force and diplomacy.

General Maurice, who staked his long and brilliant military record upon the success of his bold challenge, was retired. In an article in "The Daily Chronicle" he defended his course, declaring that nothing had been further from his mind than to precipitate any political crisis. Particular interest attaches to the manner in which General Maurice's action was received by officers of the British army. In this connection Caspar Whitney, writing in The Tribune, declared he had found British officers at the front quite outspoken in their criticism. Condemnation was general.

King Making Goes On

THE day of kings is yet contemporary. This fact was strikingly illustrated by a sort of wholesale crowning on the part of Germany's Kaiser. It is true the crowning was done on paper, but those with imagination easily perceived the brittle sparkle of the "heavy round of care." Only a few weeks ago Germany was protesting that she had no designs of territorial aggrandizement in the East, but the news followed quickly that the Kaiser had selected four kings to rule over Lithuania, Courland, Estonia and Poland, and had declared a state of war in the Russian cities of Ekaterinograd, Odessa and Poltava, while German bands were advancing in the Don Cossack region in spite of the armistice.

Emperor Charles of Austria, distracted by the increasing chaos in his dominions, appears to have given the Kaiser a free hand at a conference at German Great



The GREATEST MOTHER in the WORLD



Headquarters and to have accepted with what grace he could a new treaty of alliance that is widely interpreted as making Austria-Hungary virtually a German colony or vassal state. Political, military and economic questions were regulated on a basis of a twenty years'

agreement. The only alternative to the loss of political independence appeared to be the dissolution of Austria according to its component racial elements. The kings of Saxony and Bavaria, much to the annoyance of the Prussians, appeared uninvited at the conference of the em-

perors and insisted upon participating as heads of the second and third largest German states.

Comment in several German papers expressed grave doubt as to the efficacy of what the jingo press promptly pronounced a great and happy stroke. For

instance, the "Weser Zeitung" observed: "We have learned in the last four years that only reality rules in diplomacy, and that the words of the polite language of the courts decide neither friendship nor enmity, peace nor war."

And "Vorwärts" wrote:

"An alliance can only have an assured foundation if it rests on the willing consent of the people. Of such a basis we see little sign at the present moment in Austria. Germany to-day in Austria-Hungary, thanks to the Pan-German propaganda, is heartily unpopular, not only with the Slav majority, but also with a considerable portion of the German-Magyar minority."

Maximilian Harden, in "Die Zukunft," poured ridicule upon the whole scheme of a Central Europe Alliance, and warned against a new disappointment. "Never," he declared, "was resentment so bitter as to-day."

Meantime, dispatches, riddled by the pen of the censor, are issuing from Austria stating that the most acute misery is being supported by the people of that country. A writer in the "Tijds" assures that "only the conviction that the Emperor honestly desires peace keeps the people going."



Struggling Russia

PLANs were made in Washington to counteract the German efforts in Russia. A mission will be sent there as soon as practicable to learn what is necessary to rehabilitate Russia economically, to rebuild her railroads and supply materials for reconstruction—this in spite of the fact that so difficult a relationship exists between America and Russia.

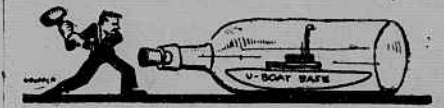
For Russia is writhing in the clutches of Prussian militarism and Bolshevism. In tortured Russia the fighting continues. Germany opened fresh hostilities at Ekaterinograd, Odessa and Poltava, while in the Don Cossack territory the Russian Soviet troops achieved some success against the German troops there.

Meanwhile, the Bolsheviks pleaded in vain for a cessation of military operations in violation of the state of peace that extended Teutonic control over Russian territory.

Kerensky, it was reported, is on his way to America. Representatives of the Bolsheviks here believe his object is to win aid for a new counter revolution in Russia.

The U-Boats

WHILE the Kaiser was busy making Kings, a cork was popped into the neck of the U-boat base bottle at Ostend. The old cruiser Vindictive was sunk across the entrance to the harbor, leaving only a narrow channel, and naval authorities inclined to the belief that even that would be closed by the shifting mud and silt. The British casualties in the fight were reported as slight.



The British navy completed the work of laying a great mine field, covering approximately 22,000 square miles, to prevent the egress of the U-boats and other hostile vessels through the North Sea, as the barrier across the Straits of Dover already prevented access to the channel. It is hoped that these operations will greatly hamper U-boat activity, although, it is pointed out, they cannot entirely suppress it.

It was rumored that the Germans had been constructing U-boats of a new and more powerful type than before, which carried heavier guns and strong protective armor.

Wilson Fights Investigation

IT WAS a busy week at Washington. Before even signing the Overman bill, which passed the House after having passed the Senate, and which bestows greatly increased powers upon the Chief Executive, President Wilson created a stir at the Capitol and completely surprised the whole country by appointing Charles E. Hughes to act with Attorney General Gregory in the investigation of the criminal charges made by Mr. Borglum in regard to aircraft production.

President Wilson's significant appointment of Hughes fell simultaneously with a more sweeping action on his part. In a letter to Senator Martin, Democratic floor leader, the President reiterated his emphatic disapproval of the phrasing of the pending Chamberlain resolution authorizing further inquiry by the Senate Military Committee into the conduct of

the war. The passage of such a resolution, he declared, would amount to a vote of a lack of confidence in the Administration and virtually to an attempt to take over the conduct of the war.

The resolution was submitted to the Senate Committee on Audit and Expenses which voted three to two to order a favorable report on the resolution after modifying it so as to limit it to "the progress of aircraft and ordnance production in the United States or into the status of the Quartermaster General's supplies or expenditures in any of those branches of the War Department." The reference to the "conduct of the war" was struck out and a proviso added "that nothing in this resolution shall be held to authorize the Military Affairs Committee to take over in any manner, direct or superintend the executive branch of the government in the conduct of the war."

"As it stands now," declared C. W. Gilbert in The Tribune, "the President cannot oppose the amended resolution without opposing an investigation pure and simple into the material preparation for war."

Nevertheless, the President did oppose it, on the ground that, even as modified, it would in effect authorize a "dragnet" investigation by the Military Committee.

A Coup for Liberty Motor

MEANWHILE, the Allies have decided to use the Liberty motor in their scouting planes, and sent urgent requests for the early delivery of thousands of the American engines, which have stood successfully all the tests made by a British expert. French experts, at first somewhat doubtful of the Liberty motor, are now eager to obtain it for French planes.

Last month the Liberties were produced in hundreds, it is stated, and this month the output will probably be doubled. A steady increase in production is looked for.



The first daily aerial mail service in America was started on Wednesday. An aeroplane carried 144 pounds of mail from New York to Philadelphia, where the aviator was relieved, and another proceeded with 72 pounds of mail consigned to Washington. The mail from New York was laid down in Washington in three hours and twenty minutes, and delivered to addresses in thirty-three minutes more.

A Miracle Ship!

THE Tuckahoe, launched twenty-seven days after the keel was laid, was pronounced last week ready for service. Thus a period of only thirty-seven days elapsed between the first stroke of actual construction and the completion of what can, without any exaggeration, be pronounced a marvel without precedent in the realm of shipbuilding.

The first million tons of ships completed and delivered to the United States government under the direction of the Shipping Board, it was announced, had been put on the high seas.

Repudiating the Hillquit Platform

RADICAL Socialists last week in New York City met and took action repudiating the Hillquit platform. Eugene V. Debs declared that a new platform would be adopted in which it would be stated quite plainly that the war is the people's war—a war waged for the liberation of mankind. He said that the party probably would not nominate a candidate for President, but would support the Democratic or Republican candidate, whichever was the most radical.

AVIS!

BIB ET BOB

